

- (4) *Hemisus* has a single pear-shaped¹ posterior lymph-heart, which, unlike that of *Rana*, lies in the saccus iliacus.
- (5) *Xenopus* has a chain of three perfectly distinct posterior lymph-hearts on either side of the body, which lie in the saccus iliacus.
- (6) In *Rana guppyi* the single posterior lymph-heart of each side is completely divided into two consecutive chambers.
- (7) Neither in *Hemisus* nor in *Rana guppyi* is there any division of the anterior lymph-heart.
- (8) *Hemisus* possesses a hyoid which is remarkable in several ways and unlike that of other Batrachians. The extrahyals are large and meet in the middle line below and not in contact with the body of the hyoid; the latter consists of a cartilaginous plate continuous with the corona, which is greatly thickened posteriorly by a nucleus of laxer tissue, and above which lies a plate of bone—not imbedded in it, but distinct from it.
- (9) A comparison of *Hemisus* with *Breviceps* and *Rhinoderma* allows of the extraction of certain characters apparently distinguishing the Engystomatidæ, *i. e.* specialization of muscles of floor of mouth, division of sternohyoid, connection of rectus internus minor with skin.
- (10) *Hemisus*, though a burrowing and ant-eating genus like *Breviceps*, shows comparatively few special structural likenesses to it. The principal resemblances are: partial inclusion of limbs within the trunk; (?) absence of omohyoid and rhomboideus; great strength of muscles attached to the shoulder and fore limb, which, however, are not entirely the same muscles in the two types; the modifications of the muscles of the hyoid and the floor of the mouth, which are to some extent similar in the two types. But the many differences in the abdominal and dorsal musculature obscure and outweigh the special likenesses, which might be referred to similarity in habits and mode of life.

2. Description of a new Species of *Lacerta* from Persia.

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S.

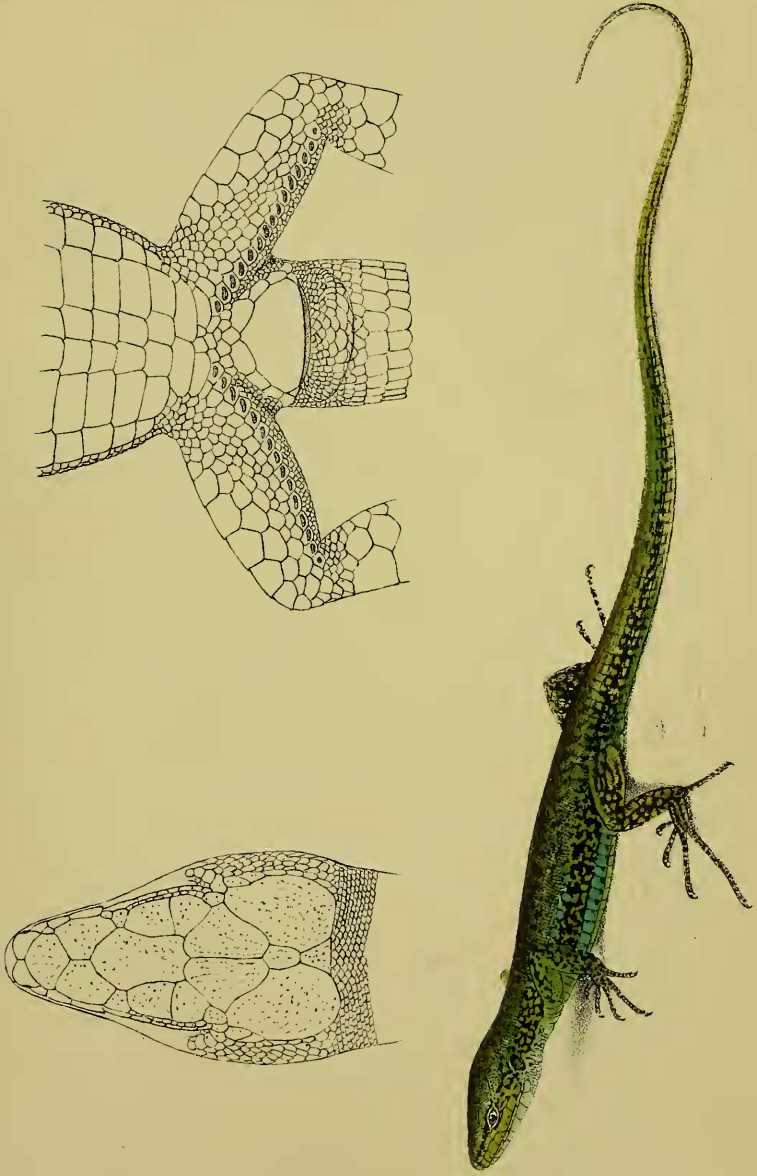
[Received October 13, 1908.]

(Plate LXVII.*)

LACERTA CHLOROGASTER.

Head moderate, once and three-fifths to once and three-fourths as long as broad; snout moderately long, obtuse. Rostral not touching the nostril; one postnasal; a single anterior loreal; four (rarely five) upper labials anterior to the subocular; a complete series of granules between the supraocular and the

* For explanation of the Plate see page 936.



LACERTA CHLOROGASTER.

supraciliaries: occipital usually shorter and broader than the interparietal; temple covered with small smooth scales, with a large masseteric disk and a curved tympanic shield; a large anterior supratemporal, usually in contact with the fourth supra-ocular. A feeble or very indistinct gular fold; 20 to 27 gular scales on a line between the collar and the third pair of chin-shields; collar with feebly serrated edge, composed of 7 to 9 plates. Dorsal scales hexagonal, longer than broad, strongly keeled, juxtaposed or faintly imbricate; lateral scales more feebly keeled, smooth towards the ventrals, a little smaller than dorsals, 3 or 4 corresponding to the length of a ventral plate; 44 to 50 scales across the middle of the body. Ventrals in 6 longitudinal series, the second series on each side from the median line the largest; 25 to 30 transverse series. Præanal plate large, bordered by a single series of scales. The hind limb does not reach beyond the shoulder. 27 to 30 lamellar scales under the fourth toe. Femoral pores 14 to 18. Tail twice, or nearly twice, as long as head and body; upper caudal scales strongly keeled, pointed posteriorly. Head and back greyish-olive in the male, the sides and limbs yellowish-green with a black network, or black with small yellowish-green spots; a few turquoise-blue spots may be present behind the shoulder. Pale golden-brown above in the female, with small blackish spots and a dark brown lateral band with wavy outlines. Lower parts yellowish-green to bright grass-green, the males with a series of turquoise-blue spots on the outer ventral plates and with the throat often blue or bluish-green; anal region and lower surface of hind limbs often lemon-yellow. Iris brownish.

| | ♂. | ♀. |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Total length | 182 mm. | 137 mm. |
| Head | 17 | 13 |
| Width of head | 10 | 8 |
| From end of snout to fore limb ... | 24 | 18 |
| " " vent | 61 | 57 |
| Fore limb | 24 | 19 |
| Hind limb | 34 | 29 |
| Tail | 121 | 80* |

This species, which is intermediate between *L. praticola* Eversm. and *L. taurica* Pall., was first discovered in May, 1907, by Mr. R. B. Woosnam at Enzeli, on the south coast of the Caspian Sea. Thanks to the courtesy of Mr. H. N. Rabino, British Consul at Resht, I have since received further specimens from the same locality, some of which reached me alive or recently dead, thus enabling me to describe the natural coloration.

Mr. Woosnam has furnished me with the following note respecting the occurrence of *L. chlorogaster*:—

"These lizards were caught on the narrow dry sandy peninsula between the Caspian Sea and the large salt-lagoon at Enzeli,

* Tail reproduced.

where they were quite common and frequented chiefly the sandy banks and dry reed-fences around the gardens. They are probably to be found all along the south coast of the Caspian, for although none was obtained during the journey along the coast from Resht to Asterabad Bay, this may be accounted for by the fact that it was then early in the year, February and March, and too cold. But I once or twice caught a glimpse of a lizard, among the scrub on the dry sand-dunes near the shore, which I feel sure now must have been this species. None was obtained on the smaller western peninsula, but I should not like to say they are not to be found there, for they probably are, and I expect the species exists all along the south coast of the Caspian Sea where it is dry and sandy."

EXPLANATION OF PLATE LXVII.

Lacerta chlorogaster, male, natural size, and enlarged views of upper surface of head and anal region.

3. Remarks on some Wart-Hog Skulls in the British Museum. By Dr. EINAR LÖNNBERG, C.M.Z.S. &c.

[Received October 19, 1908.]

When recently describing the mammals collected in German East Africa by Prof. Dr. Y. Sjöstedt* I made some remarks about different races of Wart-Hogs, and, with some hesitation, I expressed the opinion that "for the present at least" five such races must be "discerned and distinguished by names." Since then I have had the opportunity, thanks to the kindness of Mr. Oldfield Thomas, of studying the material of Wart-Hogs in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), and, thanks to the kindness of Dr. S. F. Harmer, that in the University Museum of Cambridge. It was quite easy to recognize among this material the five races mentioned in the paper quoted above, in such cases where they were represented by skulls of adult specimens, especially boars.

A few remarks about these skulls may be of some value for future study of these animals, as I did not have access to specimens of all five races when writing the first paper.

Phacochoerus africanus (Gmelin) appears to be the largest or one of the largest of these races. A skull of an adult boar of this kind in the British Museum from the typical locality, Cape Verde, measures 440 mm. in length, but the extreme tips of the nasals are not complete, so that this measurement should be a little longer. The postorbital portion of this skull is very long, measuring 59 mm., but it is at the same time very broad, viz. 58 mm. across the flat area. By this characteristic *Ph. africanus* is very easily distinguished from *Ph. aliani*, which also has a long but at the same time

* Lönnberg: Mammals, in Wiss. Ergebn. d. schwed. zool. Exp. nach dem Kili-
mandjaro, dem Meru etc., 1905-1906, unter Leitung von Prof. Dr. Yngve Sjöstedt.